

From: Praedor
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/21/01 8:48am
Subject: Microsoft's offer to end lawsuits is not acceptable

The recent offer by Microsoft to give computers, software, and training to hundreds of needy schools is NOT an acceptable means to end any lawsuits. It is entirely self-serving and monopoly-feeding.

They would give computers containing Microsoft software to these schools and train individuals on how to use Microsoft software and manage Microsoft networks. This is merely intended to create future paying customers since Microsoft would NOT provide free upgrades - they would have to pay and feed the monopoly in order to maintain and improve their "generous gift".

Not acceptable. It is not acceptable that any punishment or acts of contrition on Microsoft's part would serve to maintain and expand its monopoly, which has always illegally strengthened and maintained. Nothing in any settlement can in any way enhance their monopoly status now or in the future. ANY settlement must serve instead to enhance competition and erode its monopoly.

You have caved in to money and caved in to pro-monopoly forces in the Republican Party with your giving Microsoft what IT wants in the settlement. You have made a mistake that is undefendable and can only be corrected by actually acting properly against an inarguably illegal monopolist (there is NO question as to legality here - the courts have clearly and unambiguously determined that Microsoft has acted illegally in maintaining and growing its monopoly - no argument). You do not have to continue your mistake. Correct the situation, reject the current Microsoft offer, and put real teeth and punishment and correction into the settlement.

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